

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## GYPSUM IN MARCH 2003

Producers mined 1.01 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum in March 2003 (table 1). Output was 25% less than that of February 2003 and 28% less than that of March 2002. Synthetic gypsum production was 666,000 metric tons (t) in March 2003 (table 1), which was 4% more than that of February 2003 and 46% more than that of March 2002. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw material for wallboard. During January and February 2003, synthetic gypsum accounted for 1.32 Mt, or about 25% of the 5.21 Mt supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 471,000 t (table 2), 2% less than that of February 2003, and slightly more than that of March 2002.

Output of calcined gypsum (table 1) was 1.68 Mt, slightly more than that of February 2003, and 10% less than that of March 2002. Sales of board products were about 2.5 billion

square feet (230 million square meters), slightly less than that of February 2003, and 7% less than that of March 2002.

Import and export data for March 2003 were not available at the time of publication. Imports of crude gypsum in February 2003 were 478,000 t (table 3), 14% less than that of January 2003, and 20% less than that of February 2002. Gypsum wallboard imports, principally from Canada, for February 2003 were 35,000 t, equivalent to 42 million square feet (3.9 million square meters). These imports were 17% more than that of January 2003, and 26% less than those of February 2002. Wallboard exports to 19 countries and territories in February 2003 were 4,200 t, equivalent to 5.0 million square feet (468,000 square meters). These exports were 45% more than those of January 2003, and 28% less than those of February 2002.

TABLE 1  
GYPSUM SUPPLY<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Metric tons)

	2003			2002
	March	February	January-March	January-March
Crude:				
Mined <sup>3</sup>	1,010,000	1,340,000	3,900,000	3,960,000
Imported <sup>4</sup>	NA	478,000	NA	1,820,000
Exported <sup>4</sup>	NA	15,700	NA	66,700
Synthetic gypsum <sup>5</sup>	666,000	641,000	1,980,000	1,280,000
Total supply	NA	2,450,000	NA	6,990,000
Calcined:				
Produced	1,680,000	1,670,000	5,120,000	5,120,000
Imported <sup>6</sup>	NA	391	NA	4,610
Exported <sup>6</sup>	NA	9,530	NA	76,200
Total supply	NA	1,660,000	NA	5,050,000

NA Not available.

<sup>1</sup>Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>3</sup>Some data were estimated from semiannual reports.

<sup>4</sup>Import and export data are for "Gypsum; anhydrite," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.10.0000.

<sup>5</sup>Reported supply only.

<sup>6</sup>Import and export data are for "Plaster," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.20.0000

TABLE 2  
GYPSUM SOLD OR USED BY PRODUCERS, BY USE<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2003			2002
	March	February	January-March	January-March
Uncalcined: <sup>3</sup>				
Portland cement	276,000	288,000	815,000	710,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	195,000	192,000	630,000	670,000
Total	471,000	479,000	1,450,000	1,380,000
Calcined:				
Board products <sup>4</sup>	2,070,000	2,090,000	6,350,000	6,410,000
Plaster	27,800	24,900	81,500	96,400
Total	2,090,000	2,120,000	6,430,000	6,500,000
Board products: (Thousand square feet) <sup>5</sup>				
Regular board	1,500,000	1,540,000	4,630,000	4,550,000
Type X board	755,000	746,000	2,290,000	2,360,000
Other	227,000	223,000	695,000	776,000
Total supply	2,480,000	2,510,000	7,610,000	7,690,000

<sup>1</sup>Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>3</sup>Does not include synthetic gypsum from electric power plants.

<sup>4</sup>Includes weight of paper and other materials.

<sup>5</sup>One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

TABLE 3  
CRUDE GYPSUM IMPORTED FOR CONSUMPTION<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

Country of origin	2003			2002
	February	January	January-February	January-February
Argentina	18	--	18	--
Canada	295,000	371,000	666,000	847,000
Dominican Republic	12,500	--	12,500	--
Guatemala	18	--	18	--
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	54
Mexico	144,000	100,000	244,000	247,000
Spain	26,300	84,300	11,100	127,000
Sweden	--	2	2	--
United Kingdom	--	--	--	41
Total	478,000	555,000	1,030,000	1,220,000

-- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4  
CRUDE GYPSUM IN THE UNITED STATES<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Consumption <sup>3</sup>	Production <sup>4</sup>	Imports <sup>5</sup>	Exports <sup>5</sup>
2002:				
February	1,810	1,240	595	22
March	2,090	1,410	742	64
April	2,180	1,450	749	20
May	1,890	1,150	752	16
June	1,670	1,070	671	62
July	1,730	1,020	727	14
August	2,120	1,550	634	60
September	2,190	1,570	631	14
October	2,020	1,470	569	18
November	1,970	1,250	730	13
December	1,740	1,210	548	15
January-December	23,300	15,700	7,970	343
2003:				
January	2,090	1,550	555	16
February	1,810	1,340	478	16
March	NA	1,010	NA	NA

NA Not available.

<sup>1</sup>Excludes synthetic gypsum.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

<sup>3</sup>Consumption calculated by adding the production and imports shown in this table and subtracting the exports shown in this table. Monthly inventory changes are not included.

<sup>4</sup>Production data are from the semiannual gypsum canvasses of the non-wallboard producers, annual canvass of all producers, and from monthly data furnished by the Gypsum Association from the wallboard producers.

<sup>5</sup>Data from U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5  
SALES OF GYPSUM BOARD PRODUCTS, BY SALES REGIONS<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Thousand square feet)<sup>3</sup>

	New England	Middle Atlantic	E. North Central	W. North Central	South Atlantic	E. South Central	W. South Central	Mountain	Pacific	Exports	Total
2003:											
March:											
Lath	--	11	--	--	1	--	--	--	50	--	62
Veneer base	19,600	2,450	6,620	713	8,840	18	143	212	1,920	57	40,600
Sheathing	871	2,760	3,250	4,240	9,640	1,830	7,780	4,480	8,480	826	44,200
Regular gypsum board	38,700	129,000	201,000	103,000	417,000	102,000	172,000	129,000	185,000	21,200	1,500,000
Type X gypsum board	21,700	73,800	107,000	64,400	121,000	27,600	79,100	88,200	163,000	8,830	755,000
Predecorated board	427	544	849	495	920	392	802	393	603	137	5,560
5/16 Mobile home board	--	1,250	4,720	--	10,100	11,000	6,020	1,460	980	--	35,600
Water/moisture resistant board	4,500	16,600	13,800	6,150	22,000	4,420	10,100	7,450	13,600	2,680	101,000
Total	85,800	227,000	337,000	179,000	590,000	147,000	276,000	231,000	373,000	33,700	2,480,000
January-March:											
Lath	8	40	54	--	34	--	--	--	156	--	293
Veneer base	58,900	8,200	23,100	3,010	26,300	50	305	911	4,660	67	125,000
Sheathing	2,880	8,660	9,970	14,400	27,700	5,440	24,600	15,300	25,000	2,390	136,000
Regular gypsum board	117,000	397,000	654,000	333,000	1,260,000	304,000	559,000	419,000	524,000	62,800	4,630,000
Type X gypsum board	66,700	224,000	349,000	204,000	362,000	76,500	249,000	274,000	462,000	21,500	2,290,000
Predecorated board	1,140	1,590	2,710	1,610	3,180	1,140	2,410	1,200	1,950	393	17,300
5/16 Mobile home board	--	3,080	15,500	16	30,800	40,300	18,500	4,160	3,340	111	116,000
Water/moisture resistant board	13,000	49,800	42,400	18,600	62,900	11,800	30,500	24,000	39,600	7,500	300,000
Total	259,000	692,000	1,100,000	575,000	1,770,000	439,000	884,000	739,000	1,060,000	94,800	7,610,000

-- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Sales region equivalent to U.S. Census Bureau Geographic Division as follows: New England (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT); Middle Atlantic (NJ, NY, PA); East North Central (IL, IN, OH, MI, WI); West North Central (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD); South Atlantic (DC, DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV); East South Central (AL, KY, MS, TN); West South Central (AR, LA, OK, TX); Mountain (AZ, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, UT, WY); Pacific (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA).

<sup>3</sup>One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

Source: Gypsum Association.